

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

On page 18, line 23 to page 19, line 11, please amend as follows:

“FIG. 7 is a diagram illustrating an embodiment of providing link quality intelligence from the PHY (physical layer) to higher protocol layers within a device according to the invention. Two different devices (shown as a device 1 and a device 2) operate within a piconet. Each device includes a PHY (physical layer) that communicatively couples to a MAC (Medium Access Controller). The MACs of the devices may also communicatively couple to even higher application layers within the respective devices. The MAC and the higher application layers may be viewed as being the higher protocol layers (e.g., above the PHY) within the respective devices. When compared to prior art PHY and MAC, the PHY and MAC of the devices may be viewed as being modified protocol layers, in that, the PHY includes link quality intelligence gathering functionality that is operable to assess 1 or more of the operational parameters that governs the communication of the PHY link that communicatively couples the PHYs of the 2 devices, and the MAC is operable to use ~~used~~ this assessed intelligence of the PHY link to make decisions about how the PHY link is to be operated. This link quality intelligence gathering functionality is operable to assess the current state of these operational parameters and to provide this pure intelligence information up to the higher protocol layers of the respective device. This way, the higher protocol layers may then have access to greater amounts of information by which to make decisions concerning the operation of the PHY link that communicatively couples the 2 devices.”